

**Sequoia Sciences**  
*High-throughput Natural Products Chemistry*

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## **Bringing Back Nature to Drug Discovery Natural Molecules in an Antibacterial Program**

**Mark O'Neil-Johnson**

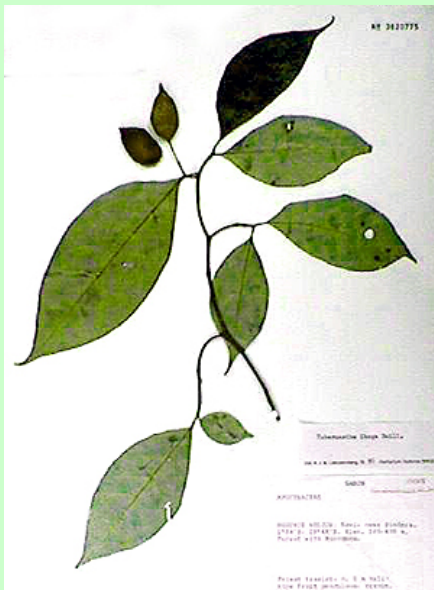




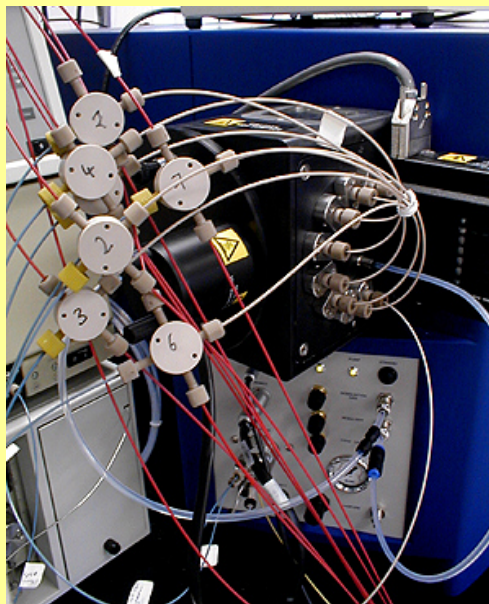




# Sequoia Sciences, Inc.



Taxonomically  
Diverse Plant  
Collection



Parallel  
Purification  
Technologies

State-of-the-art  
NMR Probe  
Technology

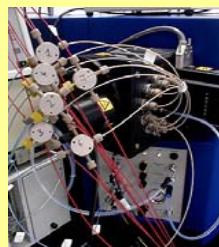


# Plants to Compound Library

## ① Sequoia's Strengths



Taxonomically  
Diverse Plant  
Collection



Parallel  
Purification  
Technologies

State-of-the-art  
NMR Probe  
Technology

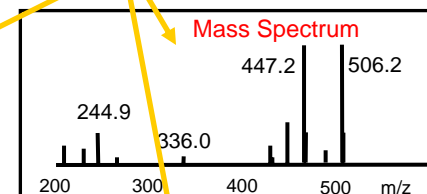
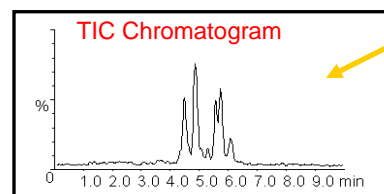
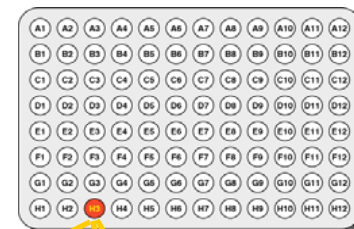


## ③ Analysis performed on each sample

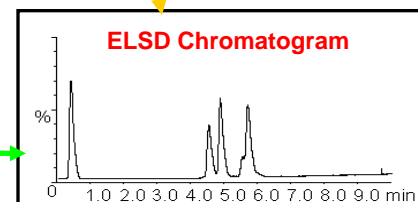
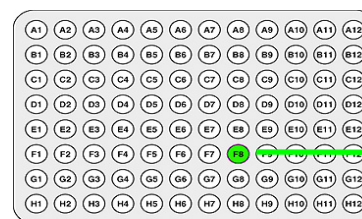
~ 110 samples / plant

- 1 to 5 compounds per sample
- Samples of known quantities
- Drug-like compounds
  - Average MW < 400 daltons
  - Log P from 0 to 5

8-channel MUX LC/MS  
with 8 ELSD's



## ④ Normalized sample weights



Utilize ELSD data to deliver normalized  
weights of each sample

Screening concentrations between 1 to 20  $\mu$ M

## ② Five step purification process to remove non-drug-like compounds

- Approximately 90% of plant extracts are composed of "non-drug-like" compounds

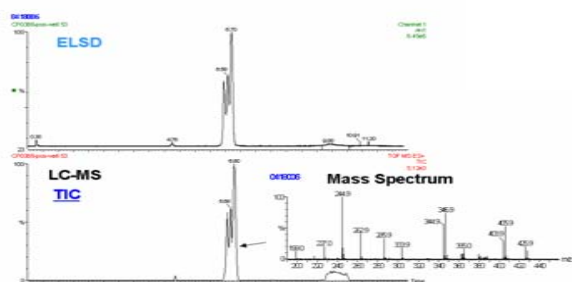
Highly Lipophilic Compounds	> Log P of 5
Highly Hydrophilic Compounds	< Log P of 0
High Molecular Weight Compounds	> 1000 Daltons
Miscellaneous Compounds	
i.e. Carbohydrates, Tannins	

- Sequoia's process removes these "non-drug-like" compounds
- Generates approximately 110 preparative HPLC fractions ("sample") per plant

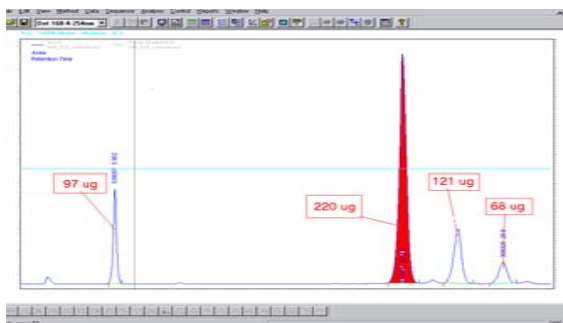
# Biological Activity to Chemical Structure

- ① Collaborator identifies an Active Sample

HPLC / MS / ELSD of Hit 332 of Fraction 6, tube 13



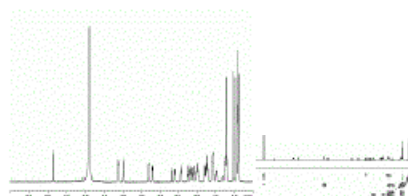
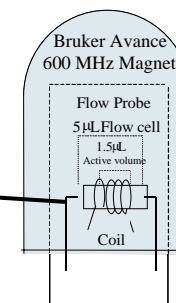
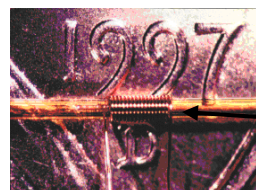
- ② Sequoia isolates compounds from an Active Sample



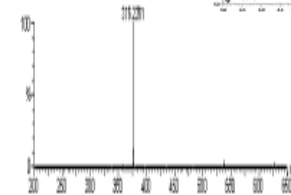
- ③ Sequoia delivers compounds to Collaborator

Collaborator rescreens purified compounds

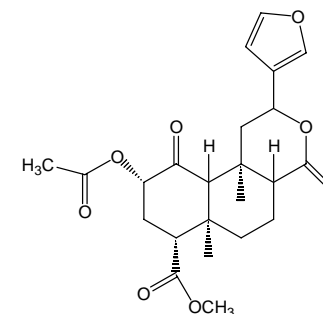
- ④ Structure elucidation of an Active Compound



• Sequoia acquires NMR spectra on 5 to 100 ug of an Active Compound



• Sequoia elucidates the chemical structure of an Active Compound

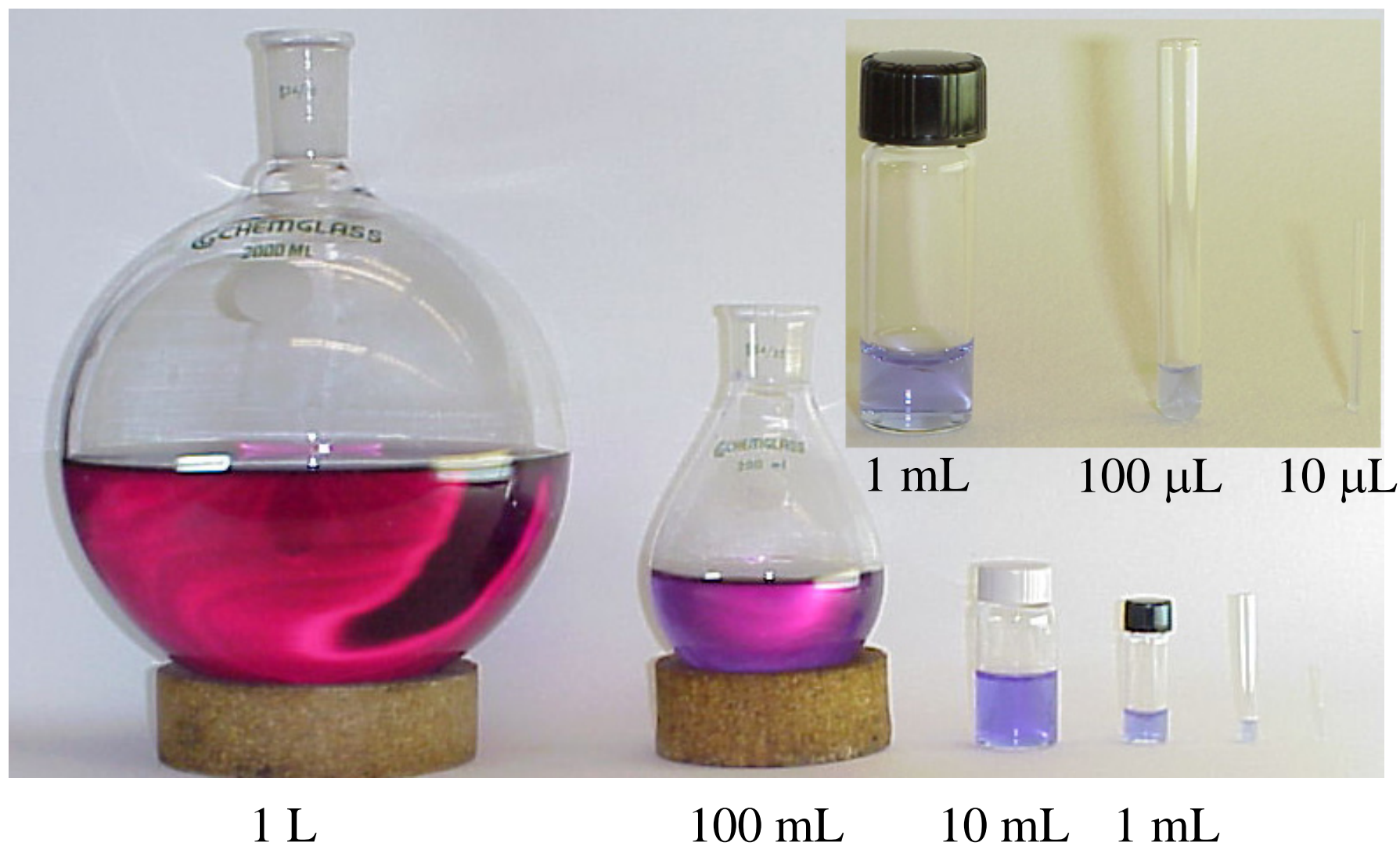


What can I do with only micrograms of a sample?





# Move to Miniaturize







8. 7. 2001

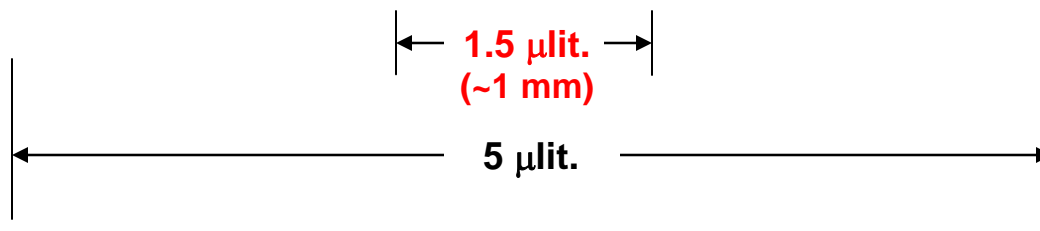
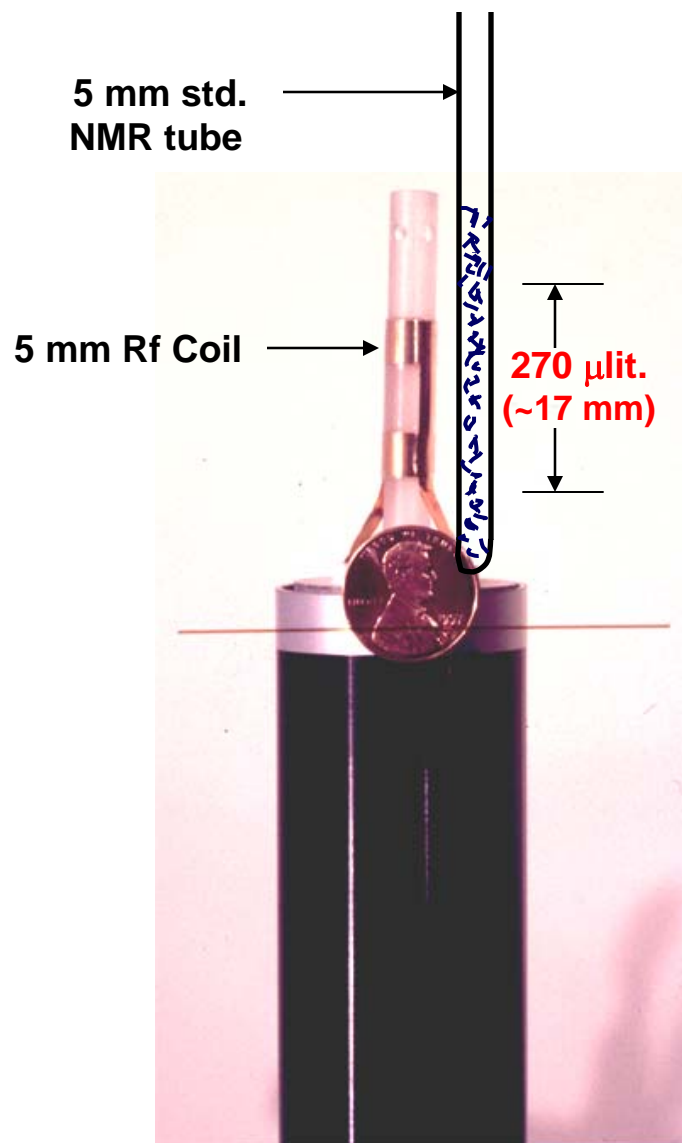
## CapNMR Probe

**The Ultimate NMR Probe for  
Samples of Limited Mass**





# CapNMR™ Probe



# Sequoia Sciences, Inc.

## Sample Submission Hardware, Solvent and Waste Recovery

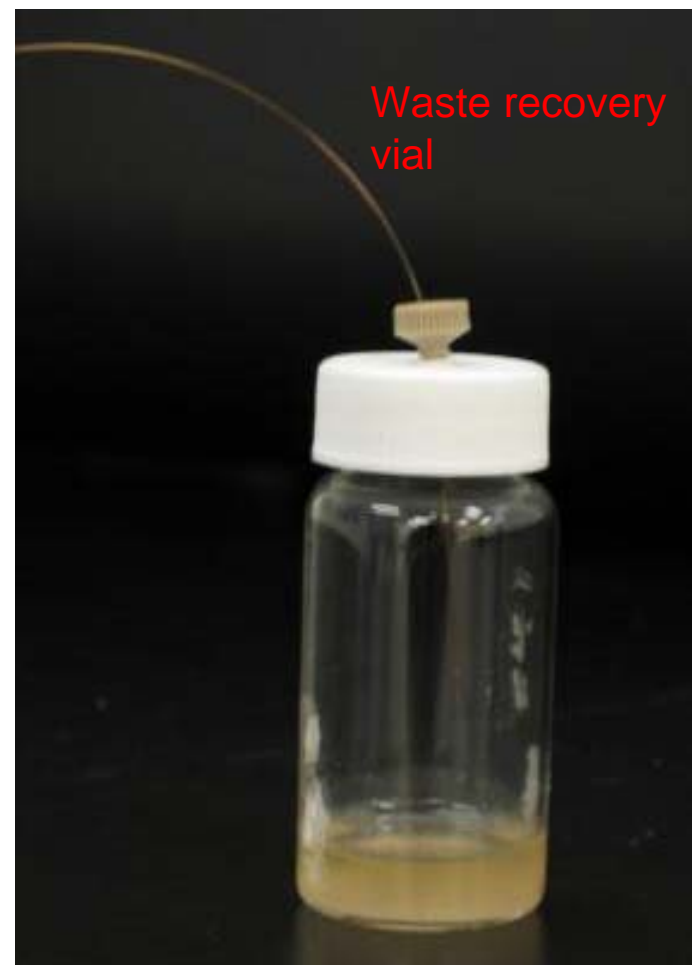
96-well plate

10  $\mu$ l gas tight syringe

mini-tube

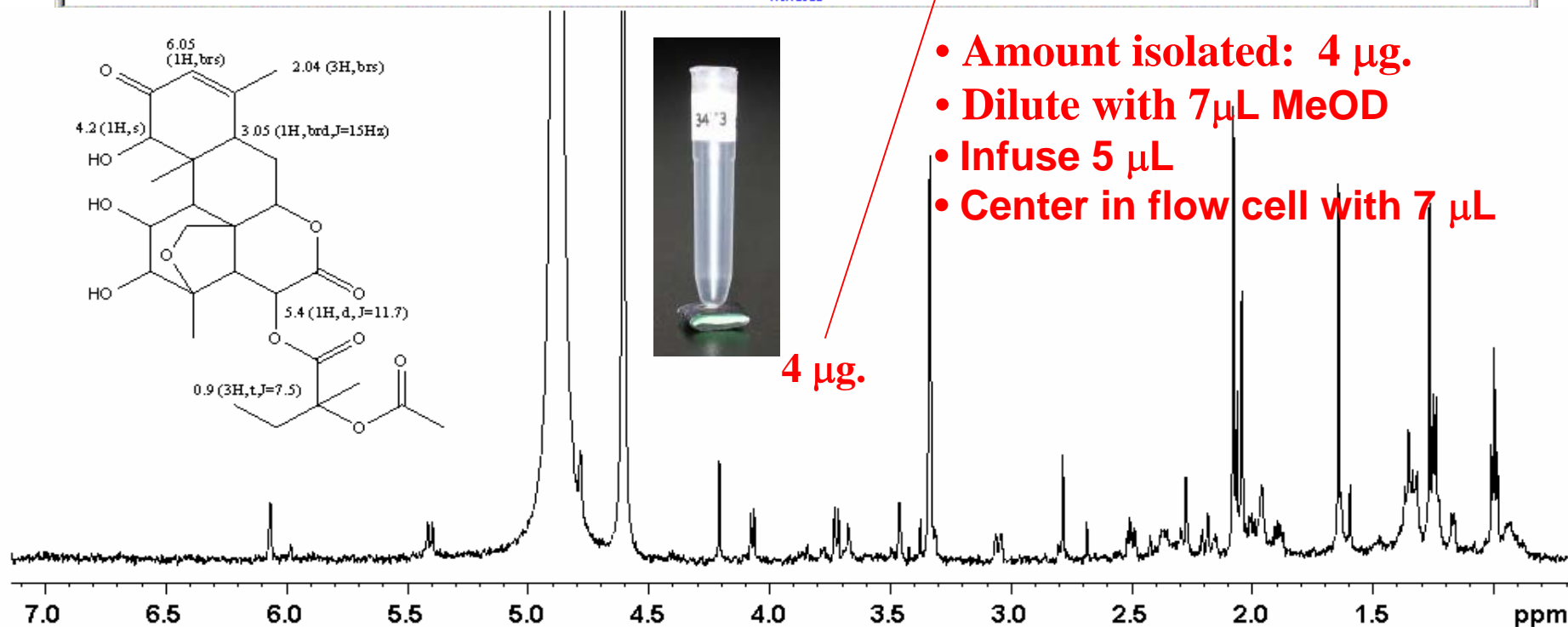
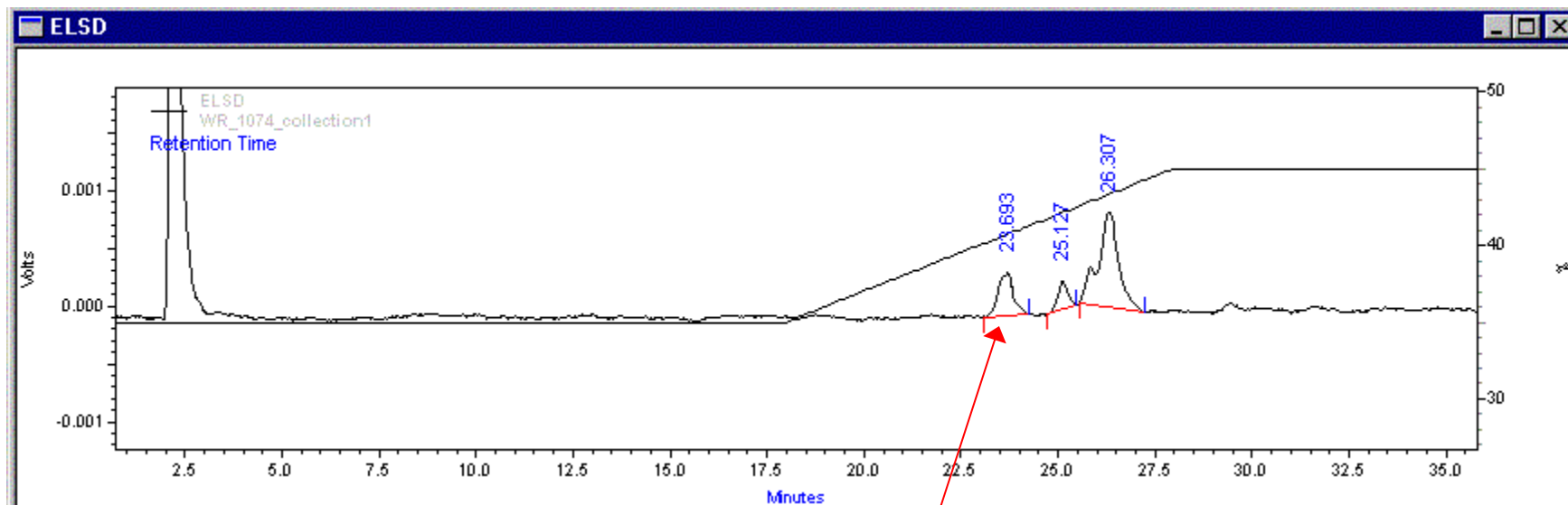


Waste recovery  
vial



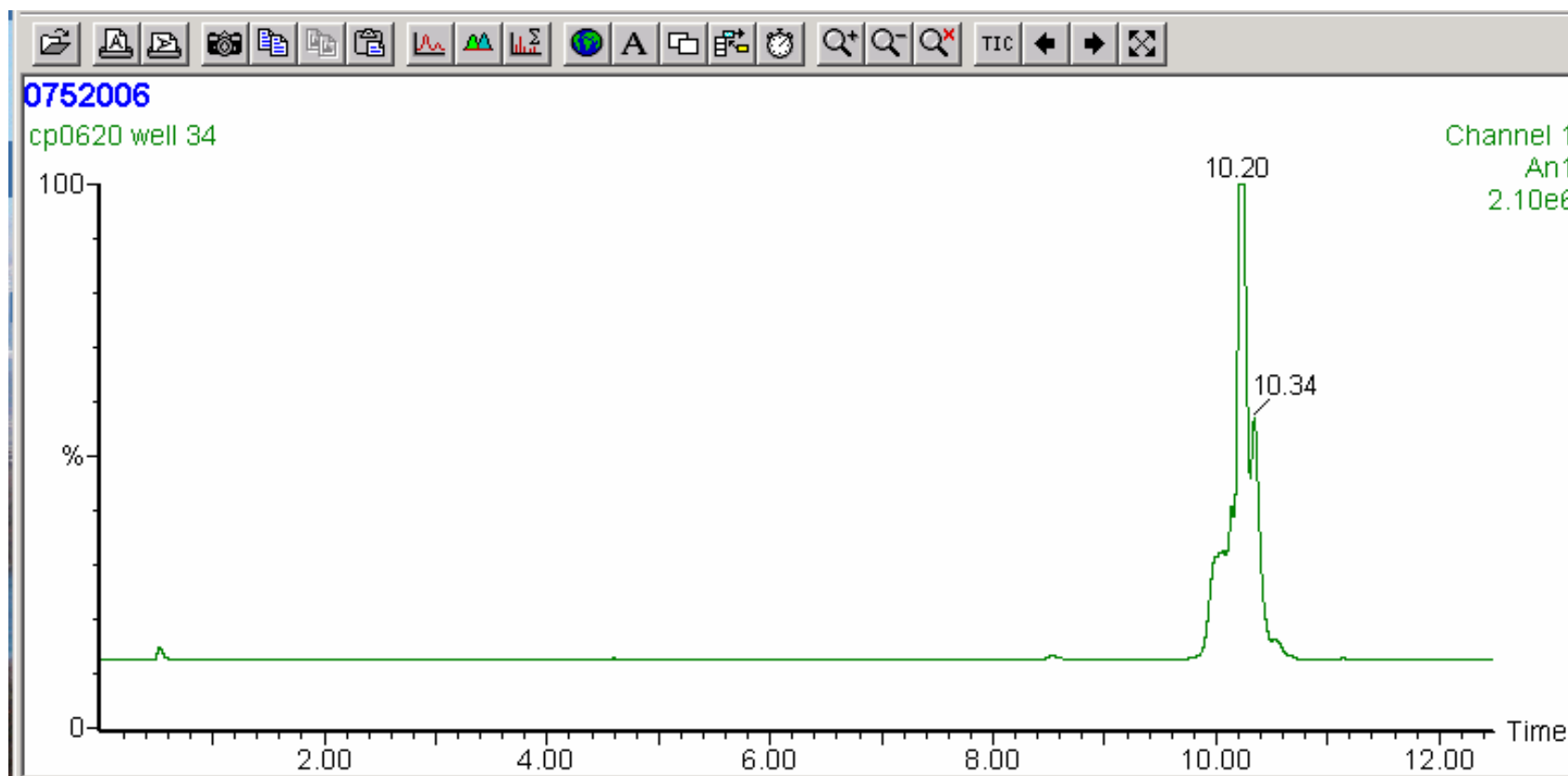


# CapNMR™ Probe



# Sequoia Sciences, Inc.

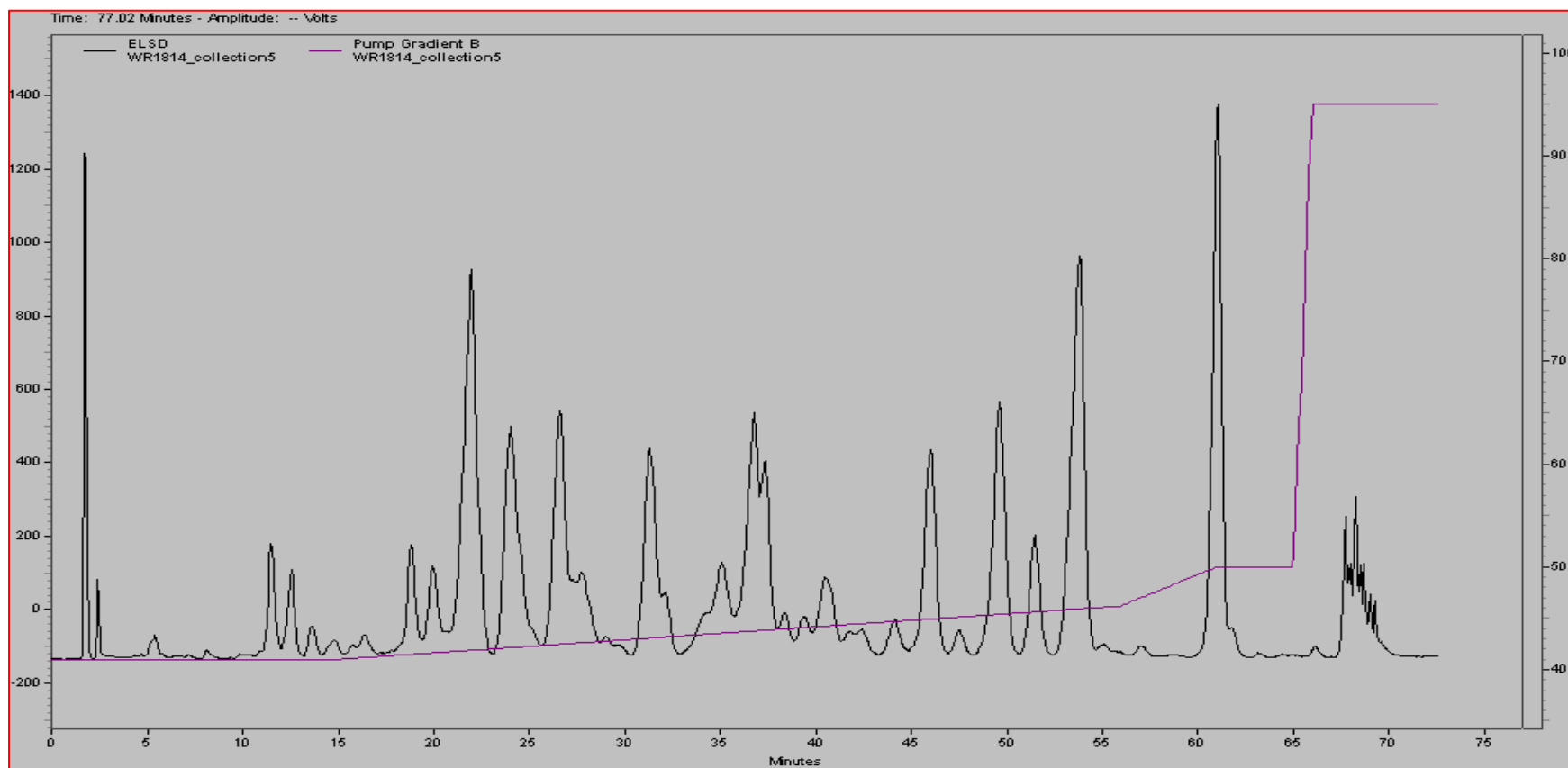
## HPLC / ELSD of Hit 620 of Fraction 8, tube 34





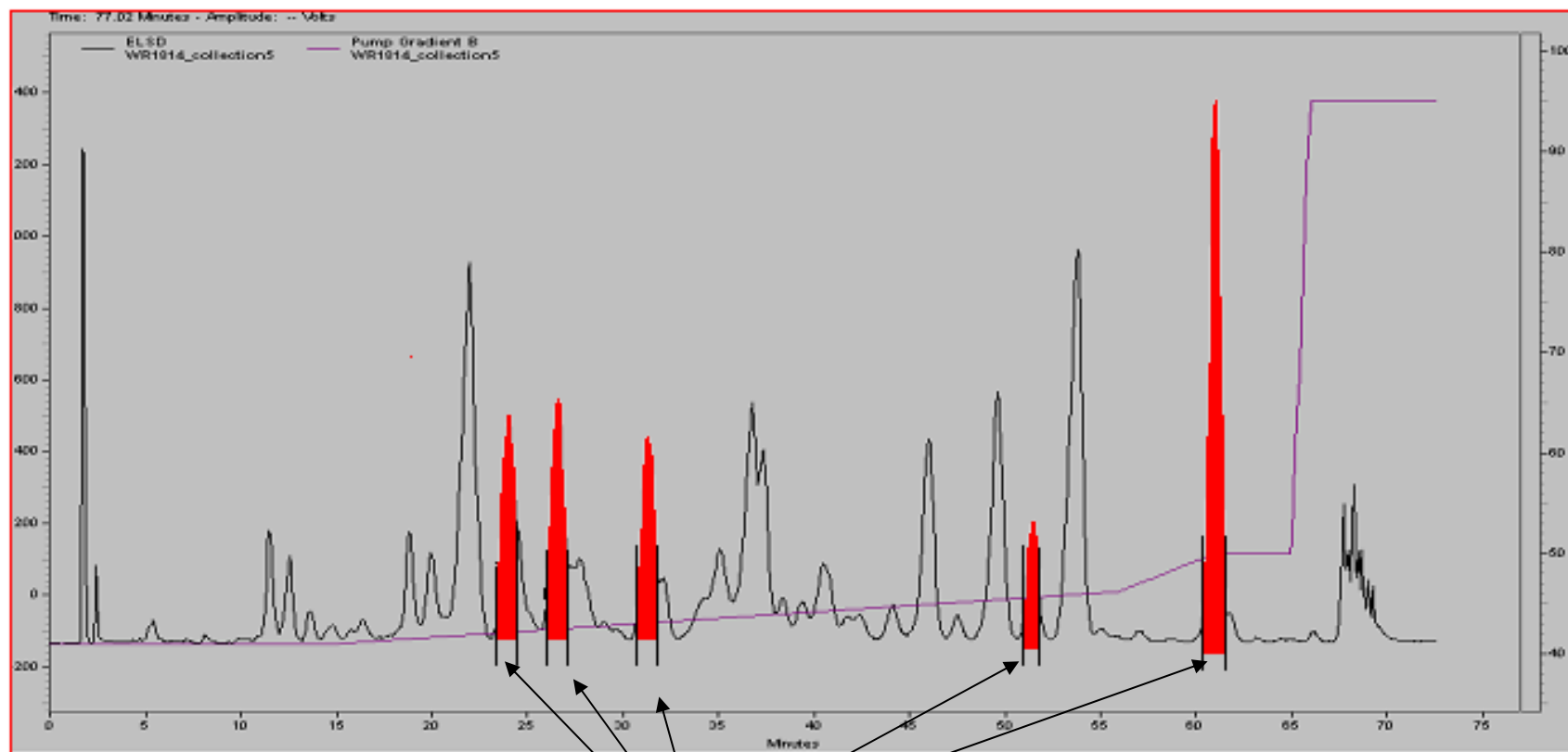
# Sequoia Sciences, Inc.

## HPLC / ELSD of Hit 620 of Fraction 8, tube 34

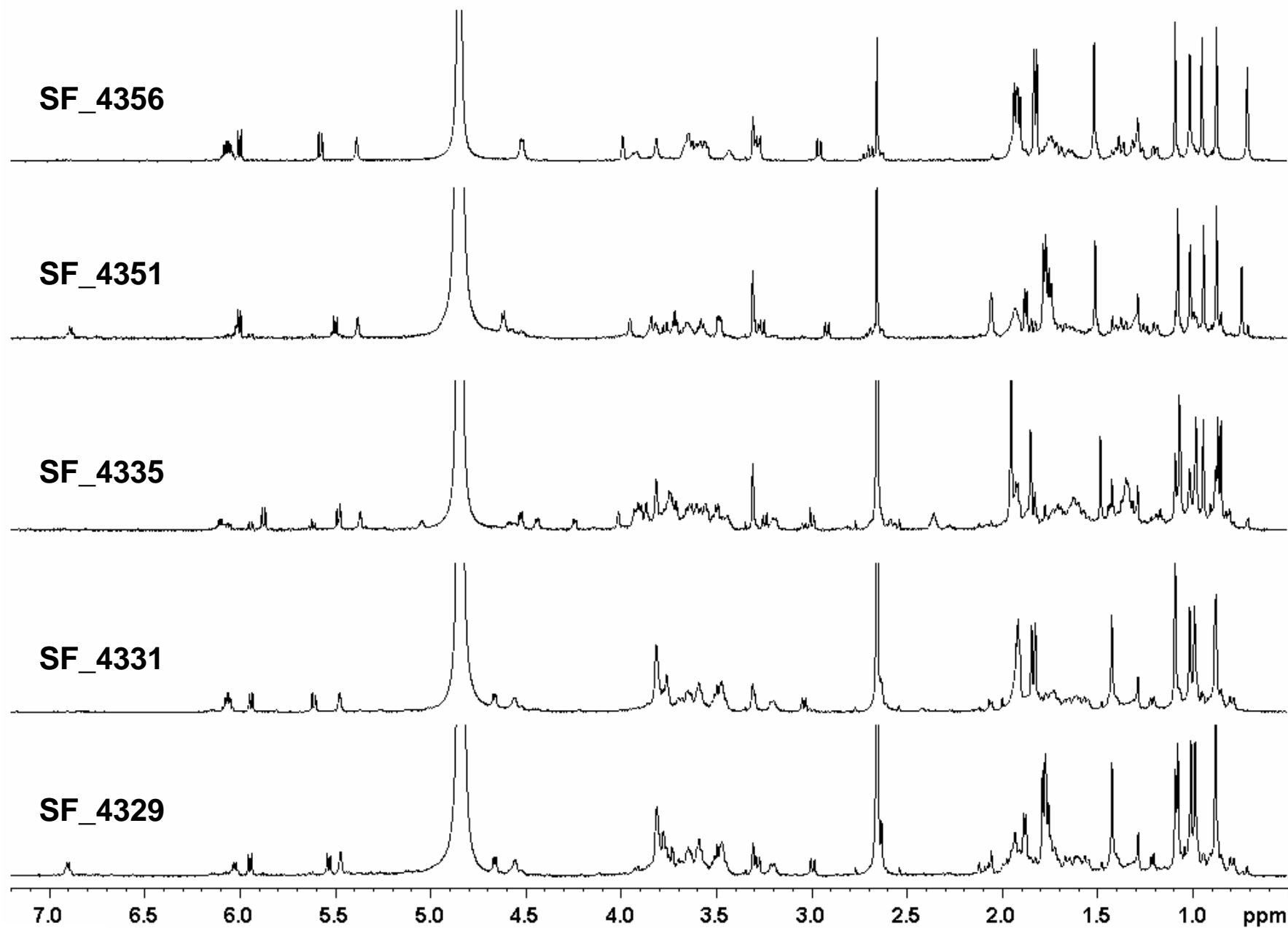


# Sequoia Sciences, Inc.

## Active Fractions From Hit 620

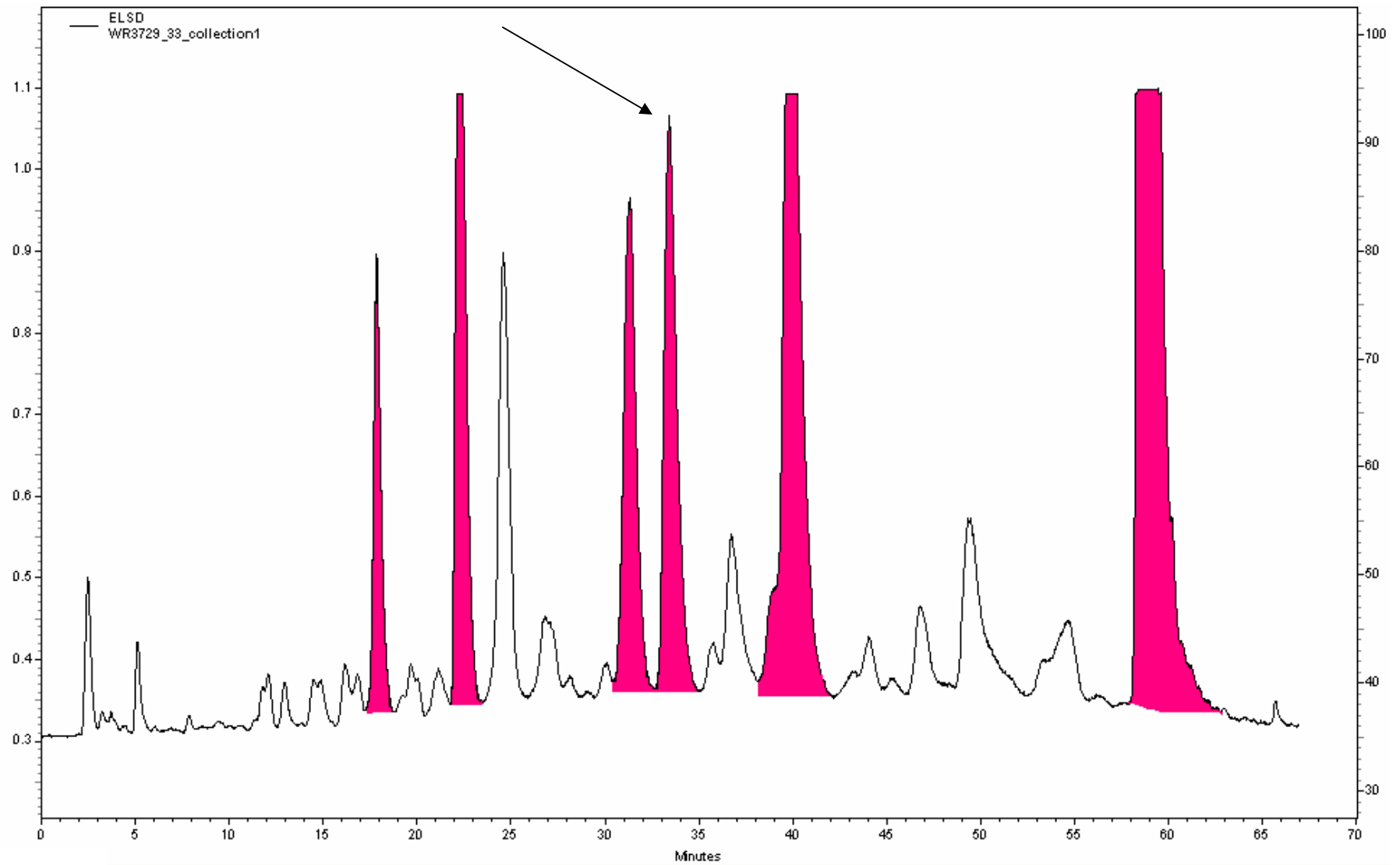


**Active Fractions for Rescreen and NMR**

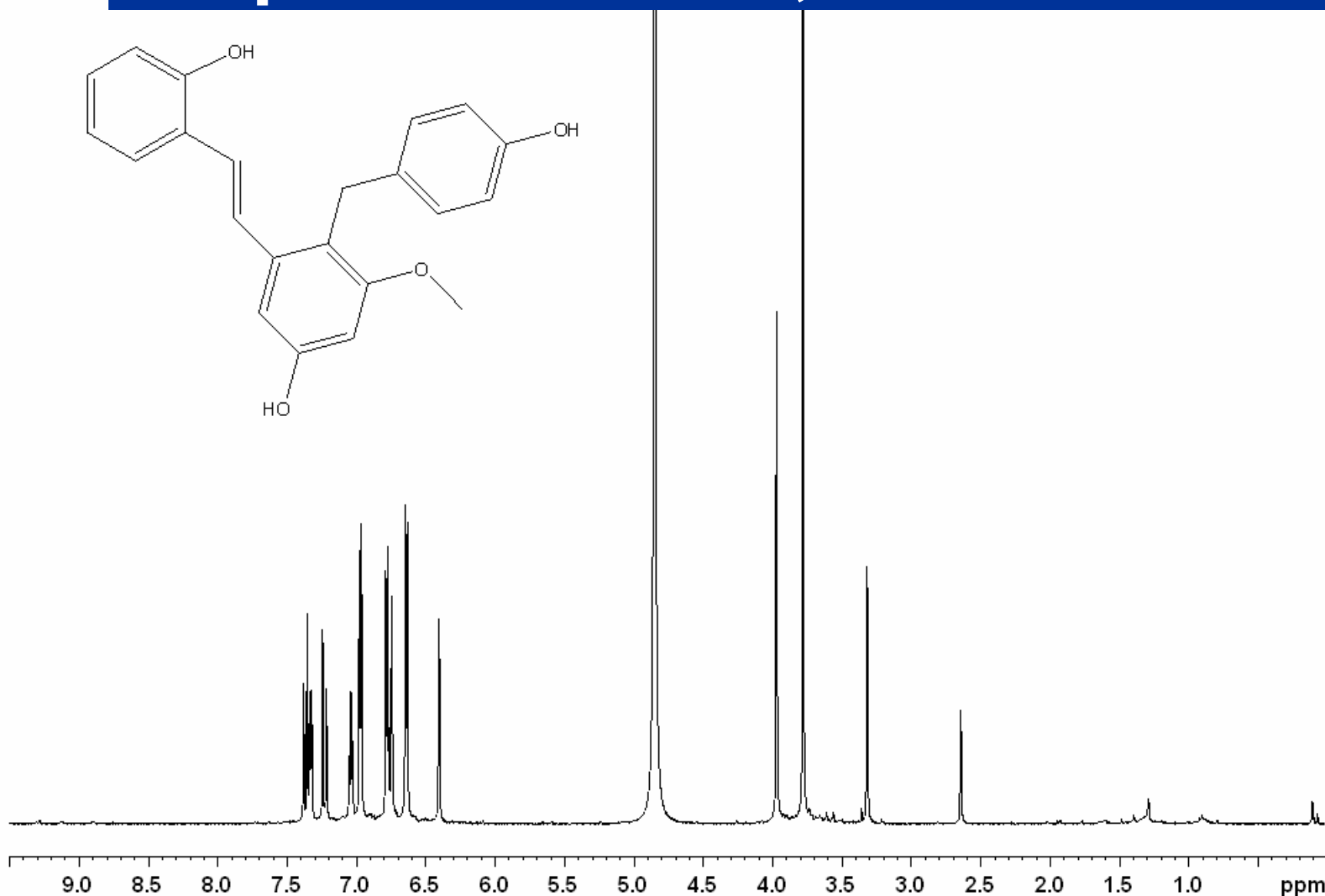




Plant Family: **Orchidaceae**  
Species: *Phragmipedium calurum*

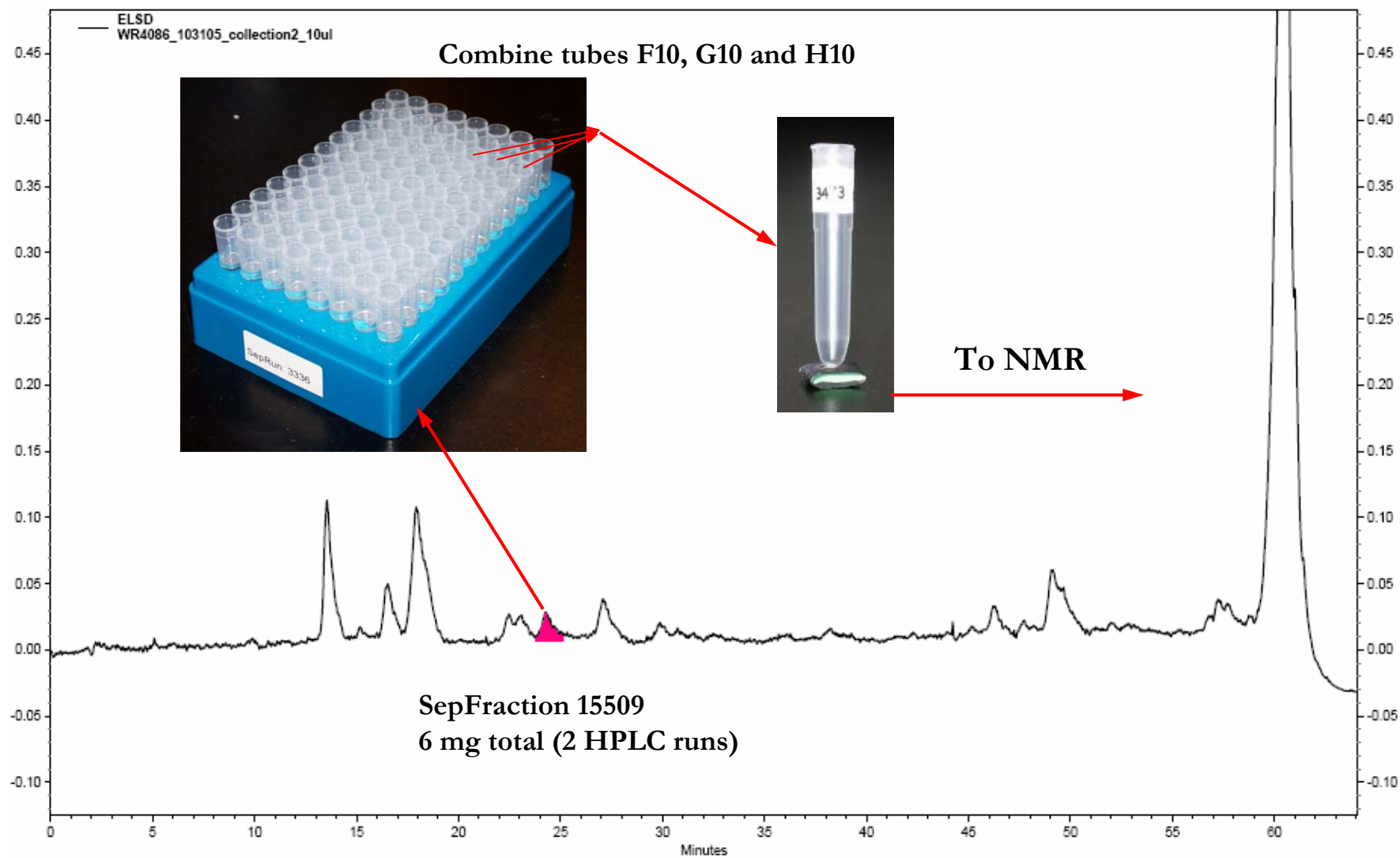


# Sequoia Sciences, Inc.



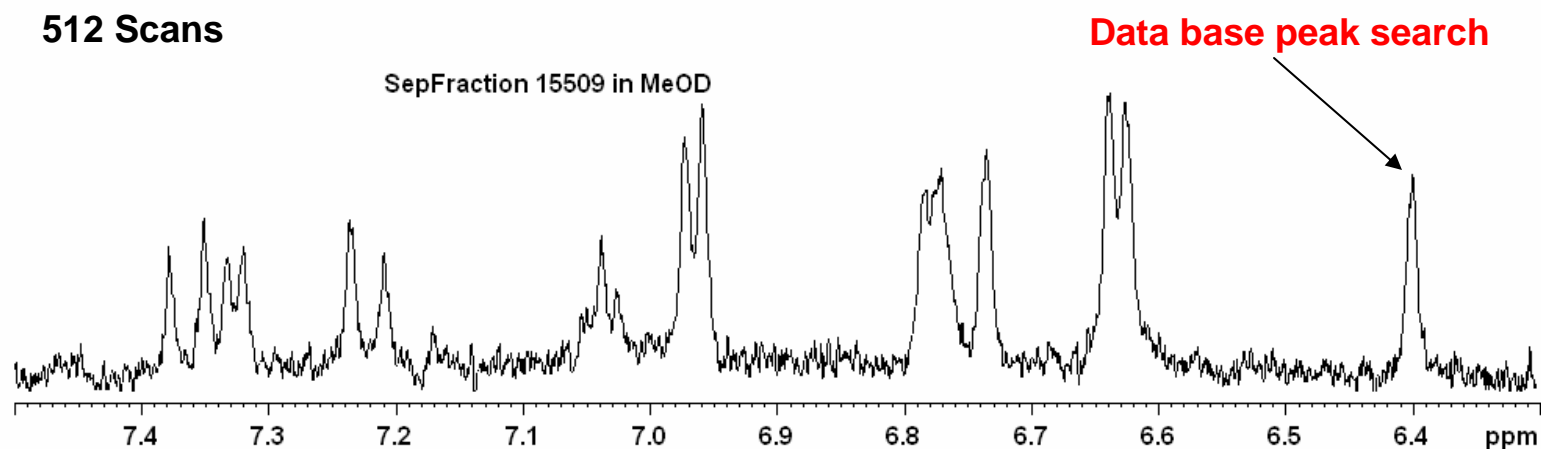
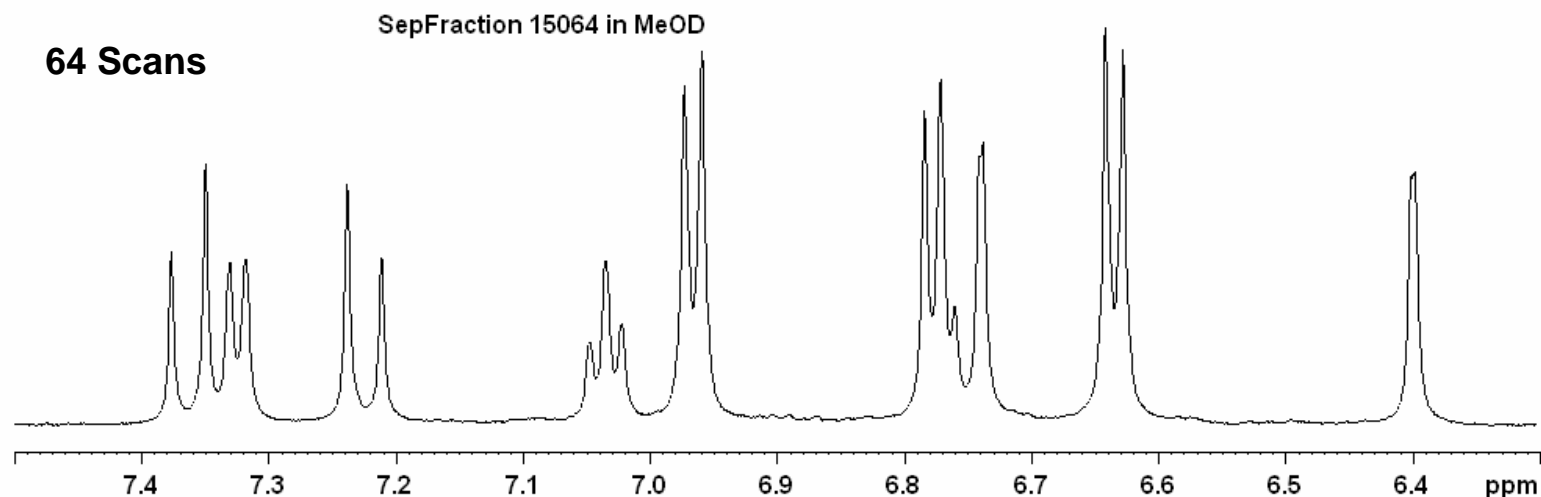
Plant Family: **Asteraceae**

Species: *Layia platyglossa*





# Sequoia Sciences, Inc.

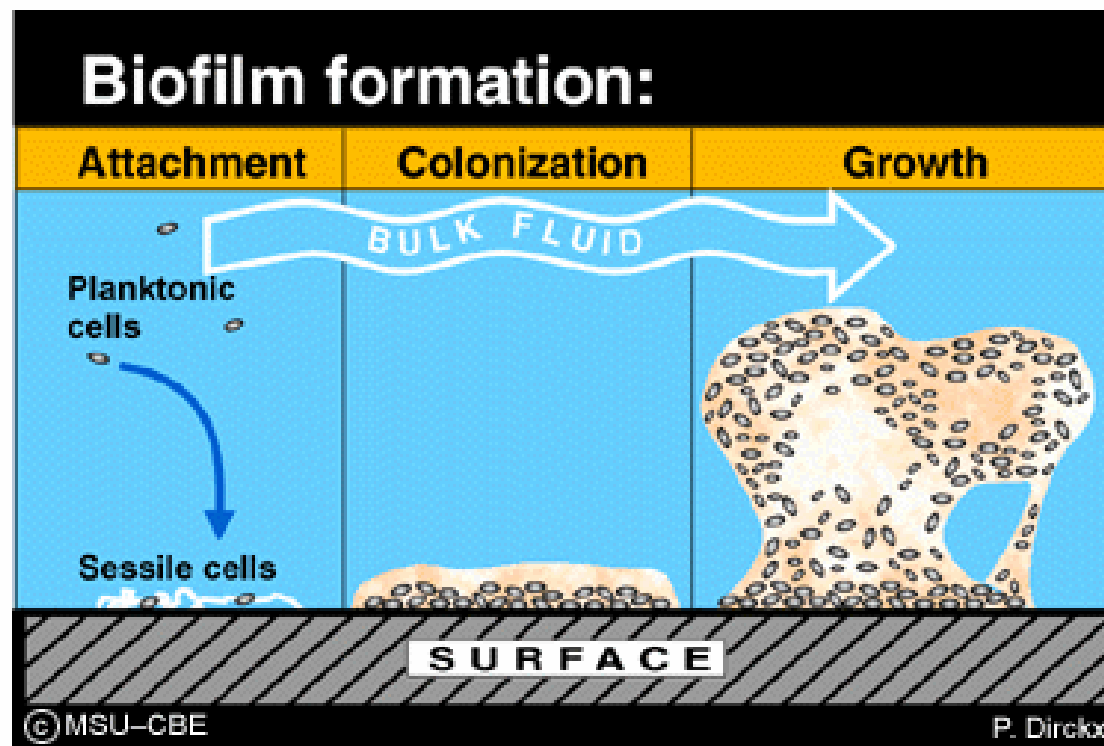


# Bacterial Biofilms

## Nasty Stuff!

# What is a Biofilm?

- Bacteria attach on surface, begin to secrete polysaccharide matrix
- Cells grow into a community, complete with nutrient channels
- Community thrives, protected by polysaccharide matrix





# Type of Biofilms

## Industrial Biofilms

- Ship bottoms and pipes
- Cooling towers
- Air ventilation systems
- Drinking water filtration and distribution systems
- Air filtration units
- Dental water lines
- Hemodialysis units
- Food processing systems

## Medical Biofilms

- Urinary tract infections
- Lung infections
- Sinus infections
- Ear infections
- Chronic wounds
- Dental caries
- Medical device implants
- Acne

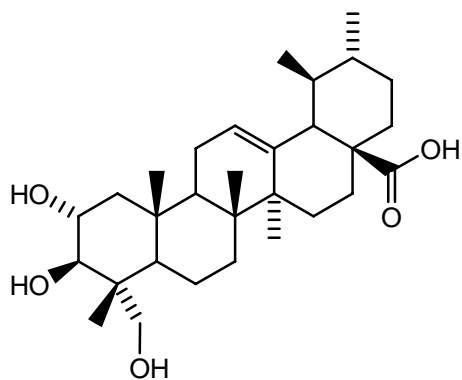
# Biofilms

- **Resistant to antibiotics at concentrations from 1000 to 1500 times higher than conventional use**
- **Involved in two-thirds of human bacterial infections**
- **No specific biofilm inhibitor is commercially available**

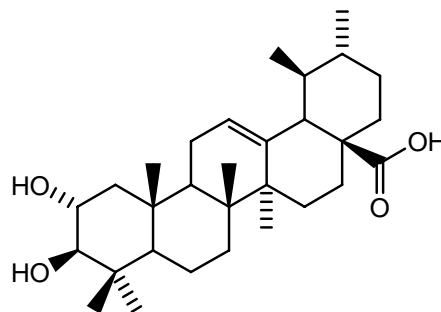
# Screening for Biofilms

**96 Well plate format for initial screen**  
(initial screen at 10  $\mu\text{g/ml}$ )

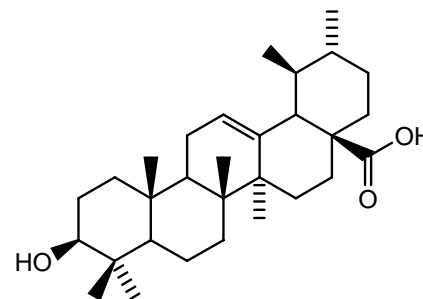
- Asiatic Acid
- Corosolic Acid
- Ursolic Acid



Asiatic Acid



Corosolic Acid



Ursolic Acid

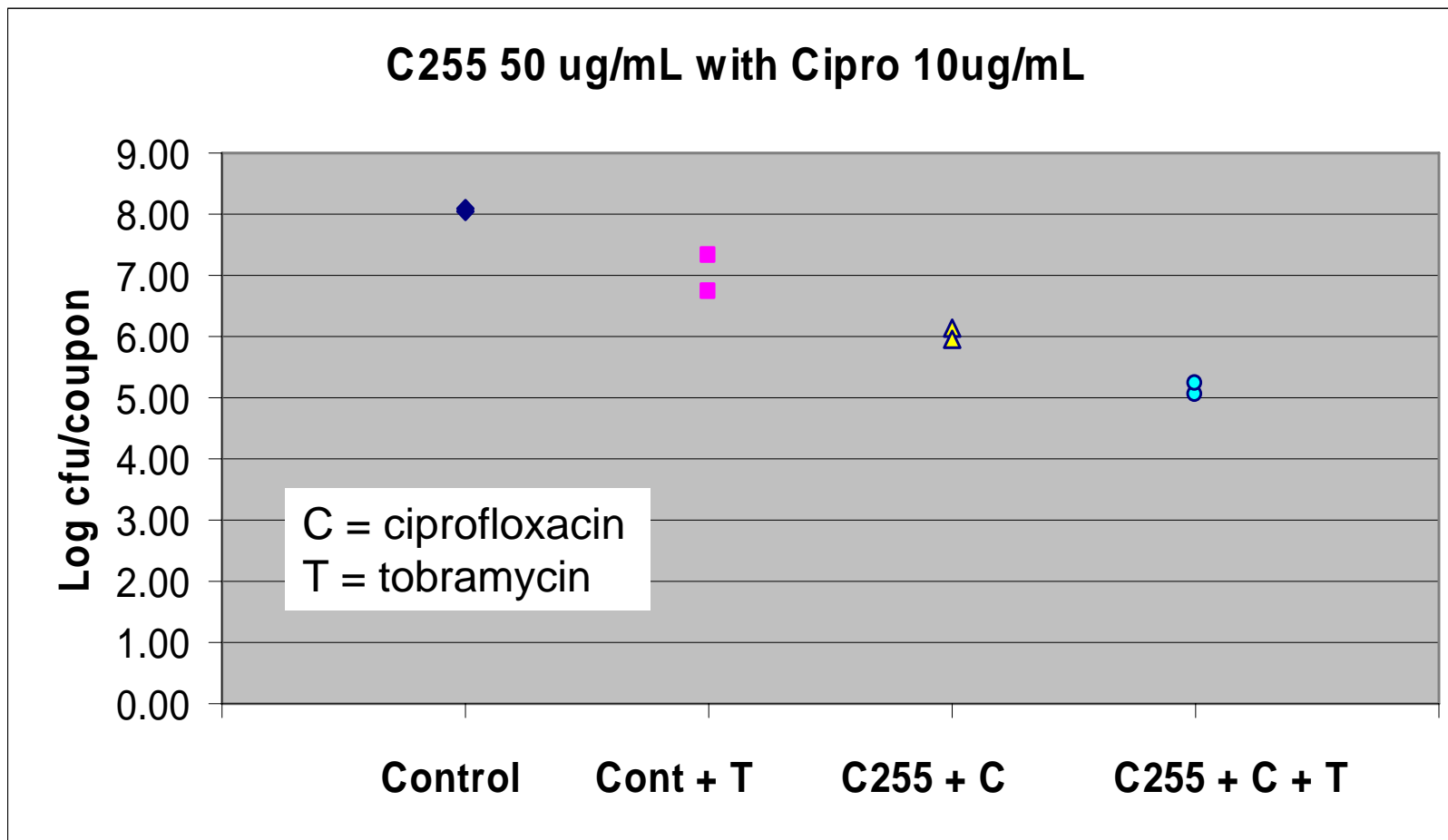
# Screening Challenge

- Bacterial strain: *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (PA01)
- **Ciprofloxacin** active against planktonic bacteria at **1  $\mu$ g/ml**
- **Ciprofloxacin** active against a bacterial biofilm at **50 mg/ml**
- Develop a valid physiological screening assay





# Rotating Disk Reactor (RDR)



# Sequoia Sciences, Inc.

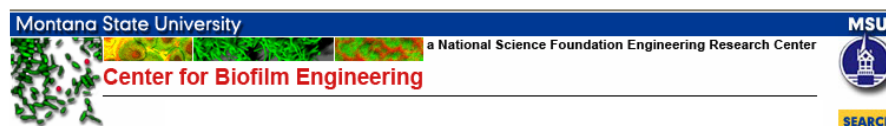
Special Thanks to:



**Jin-Feng Hu**  
**Eliane Garo**  
**Gary Eldridge**



**James Norcross**  
**Tim Peck**  
**Dean Olson**



**Bill Costerton**  
**Garth James**





